

Bangladesh was also traced at CAL and identified as *O. nayarii* Giri, which extended its eastern distribution.

Specimens examined at CAL: INDIA: Assam: Pantung Forest, 5.iv.1938, *K. Biswas s.n.*; locality not mentioned, *Junkings s.n.* Meghalaya: Khasia, ca 600 m, 14.ix.1886, Clarke 44776 A (Holotype); *Ibid.*, Clarke 44776 B-D (Isotypes); Khasia, *G. Mann s.n.*; Shillong, ca 1,200 m, 7.v.1986, *Pal s.n.*; West Bengal: Bengal Or., ca 1,200 m, *J.D.H. & T.T. s.n.*

BANGLADESH: Chittagong Hill Tracts, 1886, Dr. King's collector No. 239.

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38. FIRST RECORD OF GUM EXUDATION FROM THE GONDA TREE *CORDIA MYXA* LINN. (FAMILY: BORAGINACEAE)

Gonda *Cordia myxa* Linn. (Boraginaceae) is an important horticultural tree. Gonda is also reported to have medicinal and therapeutic value (Chopra *et al.* 1956). In this paper, we report for the first time gum exudation from Gonda tree. In December, 1994, 490 gm of the gum was collected from trees around Jodhpur. The gum was in the form of irregular broken tears of varying size, generally colourless, with a brittle, fractured surface. The sample was odourless, mucilaginous and tasted bland. The powder was white in colour. The gum was practically insoluble in alcohol and almost entirely soluble in twice its weight of water, yielding a highly viscous, slightly acidic solution. When diluted with more water and allowed to stand, the sample produced a negligible amount of gummy residue. It was distinguishable from the Indian gum described in THE PHARMACOPOEIA OF INDIA (Anon 1970): (i) it produced a greenish instead of blue colour on treatment with hydrogen peroxide and

benzidine, and (ii) it gave a white precipitate with lead acetate instead of no precipitate. Despite slight variations in its properties compared to Indian gum, the high solubility in water and attractive physical appearance of the Gonda gum may be exploited for use in various applications.

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